

01556

1992/09/27

CONFIDENTIAL

P. 01/01 SUN 27 SEP 9

EXCISE

CHINA: OPENING TARIM BASIN

China may be about to open its large Tarim Basin to joint development by foreign oil companies, according to Embassy Beijing. The official announcement date and the extent of the basin to be included are unknown, but information packages may be available next month, and bids could open next January. The bid offer is likely to include onshore areas in eastern China as well as the northwest, where Tarim is located.

1

But the Chinese are sending a delegation to Britain, the Netherlands, Italy, and Germany to seek European involvement, and Beijing's intentions will not be evident until the rules for bidding are published. China reportedly has decided to open Tarim now because the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) is under pressure to show it is doing its part for reform

B1A5

B1A5

(CONFIDENTIAL)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE	IS/FPC/CDR 11:	Date: 5/
<input type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCISE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY IN PART	MR Cases Only:
<input type="checkbox"/> DENY		EO Citations
<input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info		
FOIA Exemptions	<input type="checkbox"/>	TS authority to
PA Exemptions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIFY AS	<input type="checkbox"/> S or <input type="checkbox"/> C OADR
	<input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE TS to	<input type="checkbox"/> S or <input type="checkbox"/> C OADP